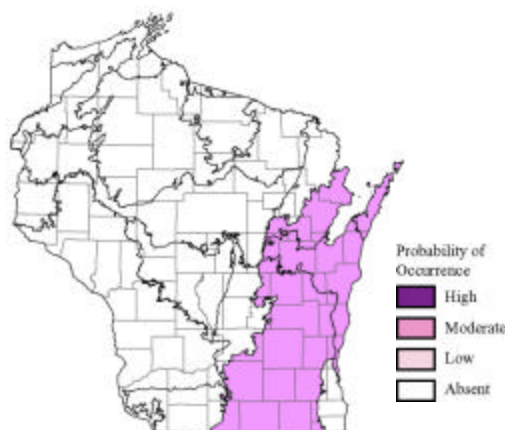


Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*)

Species Assessment Scores*

State rarity:	5
State threats:	2
State population trend:	3
Global abundance:	3
Global distribution:	1
Global threats:	3
Global population trend:	1
Mean Risk Score:	2.6
Area of importance:	1

* Please see the [Description of Vertebrate Species Summaries \(Section 3.1.1\)](#) for definitions of criteria and scores.



Ecological Landscape Associations

Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

Landscape-community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority

Ecological Landscape	Community
Central Lake Michigan Coastal	Emergent marsh
Central Lake Michigan Coastal	Lake Michigan
Central Lake Michigan Coastal	Submergent marsh
Northern Lake Michigan Coastal	Emergent marsh
Northern Lake Michigan Coastal	Lake Michigan
Northern Lake Michigan Coastal	Submergent marsh
Southeast Glacial Plains	Emergent marsh
Southeast Glacial Plains	Submergent marsh

Threats and Issues

- Wetland habitat loss and degradation due to loss of floodplain forest trees used for nesting or loss of shrubs/trees in estuarine/bay wetland habitats. This species nests in trees or shrubs, sometimes on the ground or in marsh vegetation, usually in association with other colonial waterbirds. This species has always been a rare nesting species in the state, with breeding records from northeastern Wisconsin.
- Organochlorine contamination during the non-breeding season (in Mexico) was attributed to poor reproductive success in Idaho.

Priority Conservation Actions

- Generally, preservation of floodplain forests and large wetland complexes that include shrub carr elements will foster favorable breeding conditions for this rare species. Actions that protect large blocks of floodplain forests, shallow marshes and adjacent shrub communities, or island sites dominated by shrubs and young trees used by breeding Black-crowned Night-Herons, may favor establishment of Snowy Egrets.
- A long-term monitoring program of waterbirds breeding along the Mississippi River and in the Green Bay area, and in other locations used by Black-crowned Night-Herons, is recommended. Training of

natural resource managers and public partners to identify life history aspects and breeding habitat requirements of Snowy Egrets is also advised. The Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative is an important ally that could help promote the inclusion of Snowy Egret monitoring in a long-term state waterbird monitoring effort.